

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

September 7, 2010

Recently, the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals struck down the provisions of the Stolen Valor Act, a three-year old Federal law that makes it a crime to falsely claim to have received a medal from the U.S. Military. Out of respect for the honor of our military personnel, veterans, their families and those who have paid the ultimate price for our freedoms, no form of free speech should be allowed to degenerate the earned recognition of Military Medals, a rightfully earned and of true patriotic value, by fraud or deceit.

The Stolen Valor Act is a protection of those values and false statements of fact are not entitled to First Amendment protections.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT the Board of Supervisors send a five-signature letter to Governor Schwarzenegger seeking immediate action to initiate appellate action on behalf of all veterans and armed forces personnel to reinstate penalties for persons falsely claiming to be recipient of military decorations or medals.

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MOTION

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